

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SP-01

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 NSC-07 NSCE-00 PM-03 DODE-00 L-02 SAJ-01

TRSE-00 /050 R

DRAFTED BY S/P:SWLEWIS

APPROVED BY S/P:WLORD

EUR:AHARTMAN

C:RDBLACKWILL

INR:WGHYLAND

S/S - MR. LUERS

----- 063498

R 071740Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 093672

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: ATLANTIC POLICY ADVISORY GROUP (APAG)

REF: USNATO 2169

FOR RUMSFELD FROM S/P - LORD

1. MANY THANKS FOR ENCOURAGING COMMENTS IN REFTTEL. WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT YOU ARE CONSIDERING ATTENDING FIRST DAY OF MEETINGS YOURSELF. WE ARE WORKING TOWARD COMPLETING OUR DISCUSSION PAPER BY MAY 10 ON ASSUMPTION IT SHOULD BE CIRCULATED TO OTHER DELEGATIONS WELL IN ADVANCE OF APAG MEETING AND WOULD WELCOME ANY SUBSTANTIVE SUGGESTIONS MISSION IS PREPARING. WOULD BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHICH OTHER COUNTRIES ARE ALSO PREPARING PAPERS. SHOULD OTHERS BE ENCOURAGED TO DO SO?

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2. HAS MISSION HAD ANY SUCCESS IN EFFORT TO SHAVE SOME TIME OFF APAG SCHEDULE (I.E. RESTRICT IT TO JUNE 5-7)? ALSO WONDER WHETHER OTHER GOVERNMENTS SHOW ANY EVIDENCE THUS FAR OF RAISING LEVEL THEIR REPRESENTATION THIS YEAR. IF OTHER DELEGATIONS REMAIN IN PATTERN OF PREVIOUS YEARS, HOPE HIGH-LEVEL U.S. PARTICIPATION DOES NOT HAVE RESULT OF OVERWHELMING MEETING.

3. SOME OF YOUR PROCEDURAL SUGGESTIONS DO MAKE SENSE TO ME AND I WILL EXPLORE THEM AT MEETING. FOR EXAMPLE:

1) AD HOC EXCHANGE OF PLANNING PAPERS BETWEEN MEETINGS;

2) USE OF SUB-GROUPS TO DEAL WITH MORE SPECIFIC TOPICS;

3) BETTER FOCUS ON POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF FUTURE TRENDS TO MAKE APAG MORE USEFUL TO ALLIANCE AS A WHOLE. HOPE OTHER DELEGATES MIGHT ALSO BE CONSIDERING SUCH CHANGES PRIOR TO DISCUSSION AT MEETINGS.

4. AS FOR RETURN TO TWICE YEARLY MEETINGS, FRANKLY I HAVE REAL DOUBTS ABOUT WISDOM IN VIEW OF OTHER TRAVEL COMMITMENTS AND OUR COMMITMENT TO REGULAR BILATERAL PLANNING TALKS WITH JAPANESE AND OTHERS. HOWEVER, I'LL KEEP AN OPEN MIND ON THIS. I WOULD PREFER TO PUT EMPHASIS ON BETTER PREPARATION AND A SHARPENING OF FOCUS AT ANNUAL MEETINGS. RUSH

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## Message Attributes

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